



Call for applications for the assignment of 1 research fellowship grant for carrying out Category B research activities, as per Article 22 of Italian Law No. 240/2010, for the Scientific Disciplinary Sector of MED/16 – Rheumatology , at the facilities of the Centro Integrato di Ricerca (CIR - Integrated Research Centre) and of the Departmental Faculty of Medicine and Surgery of Università Campus Bio-Medico di Roma.

Call Code: ASS-RIC/04_24

Departmental Faculty	Medicine and Surgery
Research theme	Analysis of the pathways involved in the action of anti-MDA5 antibodies: impact on innate immunity and fibroblasts
Brief description of the research	Melanoma Differentiation Antigen 5 (MDA5) is a cytosolic intracellular pattern recognition receptor involved in the innate immunity towards viruses, recognizing long double stranded RNA (dsRNA) and activating type I interferon and NF-KB pathways. Anti-MDA5 antibodies are markers of a specific myositis subset that may present with an often refractory and fatal lung manifestation (Rapidly Progressive Interstitial Lung Disease, RP-ILD). The project addresses the function of single anti-MDA5 antibody specificities targeted onto MDA5 epitopes and of ferritin in different in vitro models, focusing on the effect on type I interferons and NF-KB pathways. The possible activity of anti-MDA5 antibodies in fibrosis-related and angiogenesis-related molecules expression by fibroblasts will be assessed, as well as their potential to induce fibroblast-to-myofibroblast transition and to affect fibroblasts-macrophages interactions.
Scientific Supervisor	Dott. Luca Navarini
Scientific Disciplinary Sector	MED/16 – Rheumatology
Language knowledge and skills	English B2
Date of the interview	26th February 2024, at 12:00 am Remote candidates on Microsoft Teams platform